Dove season opens this Saturday

Sportsmen across the Old Dominion will unlimber their shooting irons this Saturday for the noon opening of the first segment of the 1984 mourning dove hunting season.

The birds will be fair game from noon until sunset through Oct. 27. No hunting is allowed on Sundays, however.

The season reopens Nov. 19 and runs through Nov. 24, then opens again Dec. 22 and closes for the year Jan. 4.

During the second and third segments of the season, hunting is allowed from one half hour before sunrise until sunset each day, except Sundays.

The bag limit on doves this year is 12, and the possession limit is 24.

Hunters need a valid Virginia hunting license, and permission to hunt from the person who owns the land to be hunted. If the land to be hunted is posted, the sportsman must have written permission to hunt.

The county clerk's office will be open in Appomattox this Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon for the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

For those who have never experienced an opening-day dove hunt, the following incident, which happened several years ago in an eastern Virginia cornfield, will serve well to illustrate the sport's allure.

It was late afternoon -- there wasn't much shooting time left -- and the doves had been plentiful that day. But as often is the case, most of the birds had managed to foil the efforts of the hunters.

As the sun fell lower in the western sky, a single bird approached from the east.

From 75 feet in the air, the field looked inviting to the dove. It was narrow but long, stretching at least a quarter of a mile, and the fresh-hewn rows of corn stubble were littered with ears of golden grain which the combine had missed.

As the bird set its wings to glide in for a meal, it little suspected that it was about to become the focal point for more than a dozen shotguns, which would throw skyward a fusillade of lead pellets in an attempt to bring the feathered quarry down.

At 30 feet and dropping, the dove caught a glimmer of sunlight off the barrel of one of the guns. The bird could not see the hunter, who, like his companions lining both sides of the field, was wearing camouflage clothing and hiding in a fence row.

But in that split second when the sun glinted off the shotgun barrel, the bird's instincts took over, and the dove went into a series of aerobatic maneuvers which would have made the great Waldo Pepper turn green with envy.

The bird dipped, then dove, then twisted, accelerating and decelerating through the air with such 'elan that the hunters found it impossible to track the tiny gray target.

Shotgun after shotgun thundered its command for the bird to fall, but by the time the dove had reached the end of the gauntlet, nary a feather had been mussed by lead.

The hunters watheed in disbelief as the dove, past the field now, slowed to a leisurely cruise speed, then spread its wings and lit in a tree -- out of range of the guns -- for a breather.

Once again, the tables had been turned: it was the bird who had made sport of the hunters.

Hunting Seasons Set

(Courtesy Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries)

DEER: West of the Blue Ridge—*November 19-December 1.* East of the Blue Ridge—*November 19-January 5.* NOTE: Check individual counties for and limits.

BEAR: Northwestern Counties—*November 26-January 5.* Southwestern counties—*November 1-January 5.*

TURKEY: Statewide in all counties open to fall hunting—*November 5-December 31.* Statewide spring season—*April 13-May 11.* NOTE: Check individual counties for exceptions.

QUAIL: East of the Blue Ridge—*November 19-February 28.* West of the Blue Ridge—*November 5-January 31.* Bag limit: 8 per day, 125 per license year.

GROUSE: Statewide—*November 5-January 31.* Bag limit: 3 per day, 15 per license year.

PHEASANT: East of the Blue Ridge—*November 12-January 31.* West of the Blue Ridge—*November 5-January 31.* Bag limit: 3 per day, 15 per license year.

RABBIT: *November 5-January 31.* Accomac and Northampton Counties—*November 12-January 31.* Statewide bag limit: 6 per day, 75 per license year.

RACCOON—OPPOSUM: CHASING WITHOUT TAKING OR CAPTURING SEASON. East of the Blue Ridge—*August 1-May 31.*

It shall be unlawful to have in immediate possession a firearm, bow, axe, saw, or any tree climbing device while hunting during these chase seasons.

HUNTING SEASONS. East of the Blue Ridge—*November 1-February 28.* Bag limit: 25 per season, hunting and trapping combined, two per hunting party taken between noon one day and noon the following day. West of the Blue Ridge—*October 15-January 31.* Bag limit: 15 per season, hunting and trapping combined, two per hunting party taken between noon one day and noon the following day. (One per day, three per license year in Scott County.)

Licenses

County or city resident to hunt in county or city of residence	$ 3.00
State resident to hunt statewide	7.50
Nonresident to hunt statewide	30.00
State resident big game license to hunt bear, deer and turkey statewide required in addition to county or state hunting license	7.50
Nonresident big game license to hunt bear, deer and turkey statewide, required in addition to hunting license	30.00
Special stamps required to hunt deer and bear in some counties, check hunting regulations.	
Lifetime hunting and fishing license for residents 65 years of age and over available from the Commission's Richmond office only	5.00
National forest permit (stamp) to hunt, fish or trap on national forests, required in addition to hunting license	2.00
Permit to hunt or trap on Appomattox-Buckingham-Cumberland-Prince Edward and Pocahontas State Forests (sold by the Division of Forestry) may be obtained from Forest Headquarters or Clerk of Court in local counties	1.00
Federal migratory bird hunting stamp to take migratory waterfowl, required of persons 16 years of age and over in addition to hunting license and sold at U.S. Post Offices	7.50
Nonresident to hunt on shooting preserves only obtainable in counties in which preserves are located	7.50
County resident to trap in county of residence	7.50
State resident to trap statewide	25.00
Nonresident permit to trap on private land only	100.00

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Football Schedules

APPOMATTOX VARSITY FOOTBALL

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
9-7	Buckingham	Home	8:00
9-14	Randolph Henry	Away	8:00
9-21	Altavista	Away	8:00
9-28	Jefferson Forest	Home	8:00
10-5	Rustburg	Away	8:00
10-12	Brookville	Home	8:00
10-19	William Campbell	Away	8:00
10-26	Nelson (Homecoming)	Home	8:00
11-2	Gretna	Away	8:00
11-9	Liberty	Home	8:00

Head Coach - Gary Cuccio; Assistant Coaches - Charlie Wilkerson, Coty Dickerson, Ray Archer

APPOMATTOX J.V. FOOTBALL

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
9-6	Buckingham	Away	6:00
9-13	Heritage	Home	6:00
9-20	Altavista	Home	6:00
9-27	Jefferson Forest	Away	6:00
10-4	Rustburg	Home	6:00
10-11	Brookville	Away	6:00
10-18	William Campbell	Home	6:00
10-25	Nelson	Away	6:00
11-1	Randolph Henry	Home	6:00
11-18	Liberty	Away	6:00

Head Coach - Howard Clabough; Assistant Coach - John Petty John

Raider Golf Slate

GOLF SCHEDULE - APPOMATTOX

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
8-20	Tournament	Wintergreen	12:00
8-22	Rustburg	Cedar Hills	4:00
8-24	Brookville	Ivey Hills	4:00
8-28	Amherst	Cedar Hills	4:00
8-29	Nelson	Winton	4:00
9-5	Brookville	Cedar Hills	4:00
9-12	Amherst	Winton	4:00
9-19	Gretna	At Gretna	4:00

Head Coach - Doug Marshall

(Photo by Joe Vaughan)

1984 Raider Marching Band

Duck seasons established

During the regular meeting of the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, held in Richmond, Va. on Friday, Aug. 24, the waterfowl seasons and bag limits for the upcoming season were adopted.

Subject to the approval of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, those seasons and bag limits are as follows:

GENERAL DUCK SEASON: (season includes coots and gallinules) Point System applies.

October 3-October 6
November 20 - December 1
(no black ducks during this season)
December 10 - January 12
Sea ducks: October 5 - January 19
Special scaup season: January 14 - January 29
Canvasbacks: January 7 - 12

GOOSE SEASONS:

General statewide: November 10; November 12 - January 19 three per day, six in possession

Accomack and Northampton counties: November 3 - January 31 four per day, eight in possession

Virginia Beach & Chesapeake - general duck season two per day, four in possession

Snow Geese: November 3 - January 31 (with exceptions)

Brant: General duck season four per day, eight in possession

Wade likes Red Devils' speed

(Continued from page 12)

down linemen and four up men backing the line.

Wade notes that his team has "pretty good size on the line. We average about 200 pounds in our interior line."

The coach is also pleased with the speed of his team this season. "We have some decent quickness this year. We may not be as fast as we were four or five years ago, but we have some kids now who will allow us to be competitive with the other teams in the district."

Concerning the district competition, Wade feels that Brookville and Altavista will both be tough teams in the Seminole ln 1984.

"They're going to be tough," he says. "And we're expecting that William Campbell and Jefferson Forest will have good football teams this year, too."

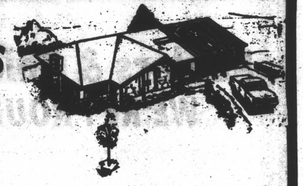
"And," the coach adds, "Appomattox and Buckingham could possibly be the district's darkhorses this season."

Of his own team, Wade believes that the Red Devils' greatest strength may be the experience of the players returning to compete this season.

"We had to play a lot of sophomores last season," he notes. "That game experience should help us this year."

And one thing unmentioned thus far is the fact that those players who pulled duty as sophomores last year, as well as the sophomores who will play varsity this year, came from Rustburg junior varsity squads which have not lost a game in two years.

BEST WISHES TEAMS



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